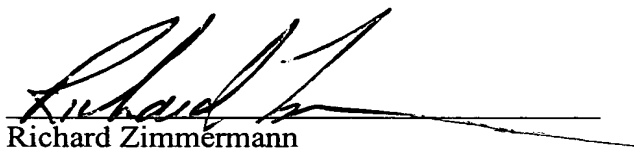


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Richard Zimmermann

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Mail Stop PCT
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Please amend this application as follows:

The amendments to the specification section begins on page 2 of this paper;

The remarks section begins on page 3 of this paper.